

**CLAIM AMENDMENTS**

1. (Currently amended.) An aqueous glittering ball-point pen ink composition comprising
- a. a glass flake pigment.
  - b. a water-soluble resin.
  - c. a water-soluble organic solvent, ~~and~~
  - d. water, and

e. a coloring pigment

as essential ingredients.

said glass flake pigment being glass flake coated with a metal, having a smooth surface

and said glass flake pigment having a median diameter of about 5 to about 100  $\mu\text{m}$ .

2. (Canceled.)

3. (Currently amended.) An aqueous glittering ball-point pen ink composition comprising
- a. a glass flake pigment.
  - b. a water-soluble resin.
  - c. a water-soluble organic solvent.
  - d. water, and

e. ~~a colorant~~ a coloring pigment

as essential ingredients.

said glass flake pigment being glass flake coated with a metal, having a smooth surface

and said glass flake pigment having a median diameter of about ~~5~~ 25 to about 100  $\mu\text{m}$ .

4. (Canceled.)

5. (Currently amended.) An aqueous glittering ball-point pen ink composition as set forth in ~~claim 1~~ claim 3, wherein the content of the glass flake pigment is 0.01 – 40% by weight and the content of the coloring pigment is 0.01 – 30% by weight relative to the total amount of the ink composition.
6. (Canceled.)
7. (Canceled.)
8. (Canceled.)
9. (Original.) An aqueous glittering ink composition as set forth in claim 1, wherein the water-soluble resin is contained in 0.01 – 40% by weight relative to the total amount of the ink composition.
10. (Canceled.)
11. (Original.) An aqueous glittering ink composition as set forth in claim 1, further containing a colorant in 0.05 – 15% by weight relative to the total amount of the ink composition.
12. (Canceled.)
13. (Original.) An aqueous glittering ink composition as set forth in claim 1, further containing an opacifying pigment.
14. (Canceled.)
15. (Original.) An aqueous glittering ink composition as set forth in claim 1, comprising, as an essential ingredient, a binder component for fixing the glass flake pigment to a handwriting or a coated film.

16. (Original.) An aqueous glittering ink composition as set forth in claim 15, containing a synthetic resin emulsion as the binder component.
17. (Original.) An aqueous glittering ink composition as set forth in claim 16, wherein the synthetic resin emulsion is contained in 0.01 - 40% by weight in solids relative to the total amount of the ink composition.
18. (Previously presented.) An aqueous glittering ink composition as set forth in claim 16, wherein the content of the glass flake pigment is 0.01 - 40% by weight, the water-soluble resin is 0.01 - 10% by weight and the water-soluble organic solvent is 1 - 40% by weight, relative to the total amount of the ink composition.
19. (Original.) An aqueous glittering ink composition as set forth in claim 16, wherein the synthetic resin emulsion has an anionic property or a nonionic property and its minimum film forming temperature is not higher than 20°C.
20. (Original.) An aqueous glittering ink composition as set forth in claim 16, further containing a colorant in 0.01 - 30% by weight relative to the total amount of the ink composition.
21. (Canceled.)
22. (Previously presented.) A writing tool having an ink container in which an aqueous glittering ink composition is packed, wherein said aqueous glittering ink composition comprises a glass flake pigment coated with a metal having a median diameter of about 5 to about 100  $\mu\text{m}$ , a colorant, a water-soluble resin, a water-soluble organic solvent and water.

23. (Previously presented.) A writing tool as set forth in claim 22, wherein said glass flake pigment coated with a metal is contained in about 0.01 to about 40% by weight, relative to the total amount of the ink composition.
24. (Previously presented.) A writing tool as set forth in claim 22, wherein the viscosity of ink measured by an ELD viscometer 3<sup>2</sup> R14 cone; rotation speed: 0.5 rpm; 20°C is 1000 to 10000 mPa•s.
25. (Previously presented.) A writing tool as set forth in claim 22, wherein said aqueous glittering ink composition further comprises a binder component.
26. (Previously presented.) A writing tool as set forth in claim 25, containing a synthetic resin emulsion which is about 0.01 to about 40% by weight in solids relative to the total amount of the ink composition as the binder component.
27. (Previously presented.) A writing tool as set forth in claim 25, wherein the synthetic resin emulsion has an anionic property or a nonionic property and its minimum film forming temperature is not higher than 20°C.
28. (Previously presented.) A writing tool as set forth in claim 22, wherein said colorant is present in about 0.01 to about 30% by weight relative to the total amount of the ink composition.
29. (Previously presented.) A writing tool having an ink container that is made of a hollow tube equipped with a ball-point pen tip at one end, wherein an ink container in which an aqueous glittering ink composition is packed, and said aqueous glittering ink composition comprises a glass flake pigment coated with a metal having a median

diameter of about 5 to about 100  $\mu\text{m}$  and contained in about 1.0 to about 40% by weight, a water-soluble resin contained in about 0.01 to about 40% by weight and a water-soluble organic solvent contained in about 1.00 to about 40% by weight, and water relative to the total amount of the ink composition.

30. (Previously presented.) A writing tool as set forth in claim 29, wherein said water-soluble resin is a water-soluble thickening resin and the viscosity of aqueous glittering ink measured by an ELD viscometer 3° R14 cone; rotation speed: 0.5 rpm; 20°C is 1000 to 10000 mPa•s.
31. (Previously presented.) A writing tool as set forth in claim 30, wherein said water-soluble thickening resin is a microbial polysaccharide or a derivative thereof selected from pullulan gum, xanthan gum, welan gum, rhamsan gum, succinoglucan and dextran.
32. (Previously presented.) A method for using an aqueous glittering ink composition for a writing tool, the method comprising: providing an aqueous glittering ink composition which comprises a glass flake pigment coated with a metal having a median diameter of about 5 to about 100  $\mu\text{m}$ , a water-soluble resin, a water-soluble organic solvent and water.
33. (Previously presented.) A method of claim 32, wherein the viscosity of aqueous glittering ink measured by an ELD viscometer 3° R14 cone; rotation speed: 0.5 rpm; 20°C is 1000 to 10000 mPa•s.
34. (Previously presented.) A method for using an aqueous glittering ink composition for a writing tool, the method comprising, providing an aqueous glittering ink composition

which comprises a glass flake pigment coated with a metal having a median diameter of about 5 to about 100  $\mu\text{m}$ , a water-soluble resin, a water-soluble organic solvent and water, packing said aqueous glittering ink composition into an ink container made of a hollow tube, and equipping a ball-point pen tip with said ink container.

35. (Previously presented.) A method of claim 34, wherein the viscosity of aqueous glittering ink measured by an ELD-type viscometer ( $3^\circ\text{R14}$  cone; rotation speed: 0.5 rpm;  $20^\circ\text{C}$ ) is 1000 to 10000 mPa•s.
36. (Previously presented.) A writing tool as set forth in claim 22, wherein said glass flake pigment coated with a metal is contained in about 1.0 to 40% by weight, and the colorant is contained in about 0.01 to about 30% by weight, relative to the total amount of the ink composition.
37. (Previously presented.) A writing tool as set forth in claim 22, wherein said aqueous glittering ink composition further comprises a synthetic resin emulsion as a binder component for fixing the glass flake pigment to a handwriting or a coated film.
38. (Previously presented.) A writing tool as set forth in claim 37, wherein the synthetic resin emulsion has an anionic property or a nonionic property and its minimum film forming temperature is not higher than  $0^\circ\text{C}$ .
39. (Previously presented.) A writing tool as set forth in claim 37, wherein said aqueous glittering ink composition comprises a pigment as said colorant, and said synthetic resin emulsion is selected from group consisting of acryl based synthetic resin emulsions.

styrene-acryl based synthetic resin emulsions and vinyl acetate based synthetic resin emulsions as said synthetic resin emulsion.

40. (Previously presented.) A writing tool as set forth in claim 37, wherein a synthetic resin emulsion is contained in about 0.01 to 40% by weight relative to the total amount of the ink composition.
41. (Previously presented.) A writing tool as set forth in claim 37, wherein said aqueous glittering ink composition comprises
  - a. said glass flake pigment coated with a metal in about 0.01 to about 40% by weight,
  - b. said colorant in about 0.01 to about 30% by weight, and
  - c. said synthetic resin emulsion in about 0.01 to about 40% by weight in solids relative to the total amount of the ink composition, and the viscosity of ink measured by an ELD viscometer with a 3° R14 cone; rotation speed: 0.5 rpm; at a temperature of 20°C is 1000 to 10000 mPa•s.
42. (Previously presented.) A writing tool as set forth in claim 41, wherein said water-soluble thickening resins are microbial polysaccharides and derivatives thereof selected from the group consisting of pullulan gum, xanthan gum, welan gum, rhamsan gum, succinoglucan and dextran.
43. (Previously presented.) A ball point pen having an ink container that is made of a hollow tube equipped with a ball-point pen tip at one end, wherein an ink container in which an

aqueous glittering ink composition is packed, and said aqueous glittering ink composition comprises a glass flake pigment coated with a metal having a median diameter of about 5 to about 100  $\mu\text{m}$ , a colorant, a synthetic resin emulsion as a binder component, a water-soluble resin, a water-soluble organic solvent and water, and comprises

- a. the glass flake pigment coated with a metal in about 0.01 to about 40% by weight,
- b. the colorant in about 0.01 to 30% by weight
- c. the synthetic resin emulsion in about 0.01 to about 40% by weight in solids, and
- d. the soluble resin in about 0.01 to about 40% by weight relative to the total amount of the ink composition, and the viscosity of ink measured by an ELD viscometer with a 3 $\frac{1}{2}$  R14 cone; rotation speed: 0.5 rpm; at a temperature of 20°C is 1000 to 10000 mPa•s.

44. (Previously presented.) A writing tool having an ink container in which an aqueous glittering ink composition is packed, wherein said aqueous glittering ink composition comprises a glass flake pigment coated with a metal having a median diameter of about 5 to about 100  $\mu\text{m}$ , a water-soluble resin, a water-soluble organic solvent and water and further comprises a binder component.
45. (Previously presented.) A writing tool as set forth in claim 44, wherein said glass flake pigment coated with a metal is contained in about 0.01 to about 40% by weight, relative to the total amount of the ink composition.



46. (Previously presented.) A writing tool as set forth in claim 44, wherein the viscosity of ink measured by an ELD viscometer 3<sup>+</sup> R14 cone; rotation speed: 0.5 rpm; 20 °C is 1000 to 10000 mPa•s.
47. (Previously presented.) A writing tool as set forth in claim 44 containing a synthetic resin emulsion which is about 0.01 to about 40% by weight in solids relative to the total amount of the ink compositions as the binder component.
48. (Previously presented.) A writing tool as set forth in claim 47, wherein the synthetic resin emulsion has an anionic property or a nonionic property and its minimum film forming temperature is not higher than 20°C.
49. (Previously presented.) A writing tool as set forth in claim 44, wherein said aqueous glittering ink composition further comprises a colorant in about 0.01 to about 30% by weight relative to the total amount of the ink composition.
50. (Previously presented.) A writing tool having an ink container that is made of a hollow tube equipped with a ball-point pen tip at one end, wherein an ink container in which an aqueous glittering ink composition is packed, and said aqueous glittering ink composition comprises a glass flake pigment coated with a metal having a median diameter of about 5 to about 100  $\mu$ m and contained in about 1.0 to about 40% by weight, a water-soluble resin contained in about 0.01 to about 40% by weight and a water-soluble organic solvent contained in about 1.00 to about 40% by weight, and water relative to the total amount of the ink composition and further comprises a binder component that is from about 0.01 to about 40% by weight in solids relative to the total amount of the ink composition.

51. (Previously presented.) A writing tool as set forth in claim 50, wherein said water-soluble resin is a water-soluble thickening resin and the viscosity of aqueous glittering ink measured by an ELD viscometer 3<sup>°</sup> R14 cone; rotation speed: 0.5 rpm; 20°C is 1000 to 10000 mPa•s.
52. (Previously presented.) A writing tool as set forth in claim 51, wherein said water-soluble thickening resin is a microbial polysaccharide or a derivative thereof selected from pullulan gum, xanthan gum, welan gum, rhamsan gum, succinoglucan and dextran.
53. (Previously presented.) A method for using an aqueous glittering ink composition for a writing tool, the method comprising: providing an aqueous glittering ink composition which comprises a glass flake pigment coated with a metal having a median diameter of about 5 to about 100  $\mu$ m, a water-soluble resin, a water-soluble organic solvent and water and further comprises a binder component.
54. (Previously presented.) A method of claim 53, wherein the viscosity of aqueous glittering ink is measured by an ELD viscometer 3<sup>°</sup> R14 cone; rotation speed: 0.5 rpm; 20°C is 1000 to 10000 mPa•s.
55. (Previously presented.) A method for using an aqueous glittering ink composition for a writing tool, the method comprising: providing an aqueous glittering ink composition which comprises a glass flake pigment coated with a metal having a median diameter of about 5 to about 100  $\mu$ m, a water-soluble resin, a water-soluble organic solvent and water and further comprises a binder component, packing said aqueous glittering ink

composition into an ink container made of a hollow tube, and equipping a ball-point pen tip with said ink container.

56. (Previously presented.) A method of claim 55, wherein the viscosity of aqueous glittering ink is measured by an ELD viscometer 3 + R14 cone; rotation speed: 0.5 rpm; 20°C is 1000 to 10000 mPa•s.